

## **Historic, Archive Document**

Do not assume content reflects current scientific knowledge, policies, or practices.

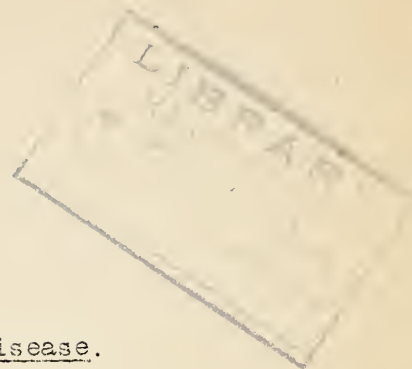


1.9  
P693c

BLISTER RUST NEWS SERVICE

Clip Sheet No. 10

(Not to be released before March 10, 1924.)



.....  
Federal Expert Explains Local Control of Pine Disease.

"Local control" is the application of practical measures for protecting white pine from the blister rust to an individual woodlot or a group of woodlots, states Mr. S. B. Detwiler, Federal Expert in charge of the co-operative campaign for the control of this destructive forest enemy. "The larger the individual control area the less it will cost per acre of pine protected. Control measures consist of the removal of the currant and gooseberry bushes (the nurse plants which spread the disease) growing within infecting distance of the pines. Under normal forest conditions this distance does not exceed 900 feet. Systematic working of an area is absolutely necessary in order to find and destroy the wild currant and gooseberry bushes commonly found in pine forests.

- - - - -

The Pine Blister Rust and the Chestnut Blight.

"How is it you can protect the white pine from the blister rust but cannot protect the chestnut tree from the chestnut blight?" asked an interested timber owner. "Why that's simple" said the expert. "The blister rust cannot spread direct from pine to pine. It must first live for a time on other host plants, called Ribes by the scientists, but which are nothing more than plain, ordinary currant and gooseberry bushes. Destroy these bushes both wild and cultivated and the blister rust cannot spread to pine. Under ordinary forest conditions commercial damage is prevented if all the bushes within 900 feet of the pine are destroyed.



"Now in the case of the chestnut blight, the blight spores spread directly from one chestnut tree to another during practically every one of the 365 days in a year, and no ordinary spray or other practical treatment could prevent the second chestnut from catching the blight. It does not have to live part of its life on another host plant in order to cause new infections on the chestnut, as is the case with the blister rust."

- - - - -

Pine Blister Rust Control.

The control of white pine blister rust has passed from the experimental stage and now can be undertaken by the owner of timber land with every assurance of success. This does not mean that once the pine grove and a protective strip surrounding it is freed of currants and gooseberries (the carriers of the disease) that it will be free of them forever. Additional care is needed from time to time, the same as for any other crop.

The apple orchard which has been protected during the season from the codling moth or the apple rust is not kept free of these pests without further attention. It is necessary to control these pests every year. Likewise, the pine woodlot must have further care to protect it from blister rust, but it need not be reworked for currant and gooseberry bushes oftener than once in 5 years or more, depending on local conditions. Pine owners desiring to protect their white pines from the blister rust should consult their State Forester or the United States Department of Agriculture for advice.

- - - - -

